

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for investing, comprising:

creating an equation for a plurality of stocks, wherein the equation is created using multiple linear regression techniques to calculate a plurality of coefficients each associated with one of a plurality of statistic types that is correlated with actual market prices of the plurality of stocks wherein at least some of the plurality of statistic types comprise financial information, other than the particular stock's past market price, specific to the entity associated with the particular stock;

using the equation to estimate the degree to which ones of the plurality of stocks are over-priced or under-priced relative to the price of other ones of the plurality of stocks;

based upon the estimates made using the equation, purchasing or selling at least some stocks, futures contracts on at least some stocks, or options on at least some stocks, in the plurality of stocks.

2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

wherein creating an equation further involves iteratively performing linear regression wherein outliers are eliminated from use in creating the equation after at least one iteration;

wherein outliers comprise stocks whose degree of over-pricing or under-pricing relative to the price of other ones of the plurality of stocks as determined by the most recent iteration of the regression exceeds a threshold multiple of standard deviations.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of statistic types comprises a financial statistic that is non-unique to any particular stock in the plurality of stocks.

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4. The method of Claim 1, wherein creating an equation further comprises calculating the plurality of coefficients using at least one stepwise linear regression.

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5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of statistic types does not include certain statistic types that were eliminated using a correlation analysis.

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6. The method of Claim 1, wherein at least some stocks are rejected from consideration for purchasing or selling based upon a first elimination criterion.

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7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the first elimination criterion comprises at least one criteria selected from the group comprising: insufficient liquidity, operation at a loss, a dramatic recent change in share price, sensitivity to interest rate changes, a price to earnings ratio above a particular threshold, and a price to earnings ratio below a particular threshold.

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8. The method of Claim 6, wherein the first elimination criterion itself is determined using additional linear regression to determine a consensus prediction of the value of a particular financial statistic and wherein the
5 first elimination criteria comprises eliminating stocks where the actual value of the particular financial statistic for a stock exceeds a threshold variance from the consensus prediction of the value of the particular financial statistic for the stock.

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9. The method of Claim 1, wherein at least some of the plurality of statistics comprise data that must be reported to a government entity.

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10. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

for the at least some of the plurality of stocks, identifying an overvalued set of stocks and an undervalued set of stocks based upon the equation;

20 selling short, buying or selling futures contracts on, or buying or selling options on at least some stocks in the overvalued set of stocks; and

buying, buying or selling futures contracts on, or buying or selling options on at least some stocks in the undervalued set of stocks.

11. A method for investing, comprising:

creating an equation for a plurality of stocks, wherein the equation is created using regression techniques to calculate a plurality of coefficients each 5 associated with one of a plurality of statistic types that is correlated with a first value measure of the plurality of stocks wherein at least some of the plurality of statistic types comprise financial information, other than the particular stock's past 10 market price, specific to the entity associated with the particular stock;

wherein the first value measure comprises a value measure selected from the group consisting of actual market price, price to earnings ratio, price to book 15 value ratio, and price to revenue ratio;

using the equation to estimate the degree to which ones of the plurality of stocks are over-valued or under-valued relative to the plurality of stocks as a whole;

based upon the estimates made using the equation, 20 purchasing or selling at least some stocks, futures contracts on at least some stocks, or options on at least some stocks, in the plurality of stocks.

12. The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

for the at least some of the plurality of stocks, identifying an overvalued set of stocks and an undervalued set of stocks based upon the equation;

5 selling short, buying or selling futures contracts on, or buying or selling options on at least some stocks in the overvalued set of stocks; and

buying, buying or selling futures contracts on, or buying or selling options on at least some stocks in the
10 undervalued set of stocks.

13. The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

at some point before final creation of the equation, eliminating at least one stock from the plurality of
15 stocks for use in determining the equation based upon a numerical criteria indicating that the at least one stock comprises an outlier from a statistical point of view.

14. The method of Claim 11,

20 wherein the equation further comprises a weighted average of results produced from a plurality of additional equations; and

wherein each of the plurality of additional equations is created using regression techniques.

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15. The method of Claim 11, wherein at least some stocks are rejected from consideration for purchasing or selling based upon a first elimination criterion.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein the first elimination criterion comprises at least one criteria selected from the group comprising: insufficient liquidity, operation at a loss, a dramatic recent change 5 in share price, sensitivity to interest rate changes, a price to earnings ratio above a particular threshold, and a price to earnings ratio below a particular threshold.

17. The method of Claim 15, wherein the first 10 elimination criterion itself is determined using additional regression to determine a consensus prediction of the value of a particular financial statistic and wherein the first elimination criteria comprises eliminating stocks where the actual value of the 15 particular financial statistic for a stock exceeds a threshold variance from the consensus prediction of the value of the particular financial statistic for the stock.

20 18. The method of Claim 11, wherein at least some of the plurality of statistic types comprise statistics that must be reported to a government entity.

19. An investment portfolio, comprising:

a plurality of investments owned by an individual or entity, wherein at least some investments in the portfolio comprise investments that were purchased at 5 least partially in response to a valuation estimate estimating the degree of over-valuation or under-valuation of each of a plurality of stocks relative to the plurality of stocks as a whole;

wherein ones of the plurality of investments 10 comprise a stock, option on an individual stocks, or futures contract on an individual stocks,

wherein the valuation estimate was determined by creating an equation for the plurality of stocks, wherein the equation is created using regression 15 techniques to calculate a plurality of coefficients each associated with one of a plurality of statistic types that is correlated with a first value measure of the plurality of stocks wherein at least some of the plurality of statistic types comprise financial 20 information, other than the particular stock's past market price, specific to the entity associated with the particular stock;

wherein the first value measure comprises a value measure selected from the group consisting of actual 25 market price, price to earnings ratio, price to book value ratio, and price to revenue ratio;

using the equation to estimate the degree to which ones of the plurality of stocks are over-valued or under-valued relative to the plurality of stocks as a whole.

20. The stock portfolio of Claim 19,
wherein the value estimate was further determined by
at some point before final creation of the equation,
eliminating at least one stock from the plurality of
5 stocks for use in determining the equation based upon a
numerical criteria indicating that the at least one stock
comprises an outlier from a statistical point of view.

21. The stock portfolio of Claim 19,
10 wherein the equation further comprises a weighted
average of results produced from a plurality of
additional equations; and
wherein each of the plurality of additional
equations is created using regression techniques.

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22. The stock portfolio of Claim 19,
wherein at least some stocks are rejected from
consideration for inclusion in the portfolio based upon a
first elimination criterion.

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23. The stock portfolio of Claim 22,
wherein the first elimination criterion comprises at
least one criteria selected from the group comprising:
insufficient liquidity, operation at a loss, a dramatic
25 recent change in share price, sensitivity to interest
rate changes, a price to earnings ratio above a
particular threshold, and a price to earnings ratio below
a particular threshold.

24. The stock portfolio of Claim 22,
wherein the first elimination criterion itself is
determined using additional regression to determine a
consensus prediction of the value of a particular
5 financial statistic and wherein the first elimination
criteria comprises eliminating stocks where the actual
value of the particular financial statistic for a stock
exceeds a threshold variance from the consensus
prediction of the value of the particular financial
10 statistic for the stock.

25. The stock portfolio of Claim 19,
wherein at least some of the plurality of statistic
types comprise statistics that must be reported to a
15 government entity.